

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03696 291812Z

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4738

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3696

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: LE OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJ: SECSTATE VISIT TO BEIRUT - DEPARTURE STATEMENT

REF: BEIRUT 3695

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED THEMES FOR THE SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT AFTER LUNCH AT BAABDA PALACE IN BEIRUT:

A. APPRECIATION OF GOL HOSPITALITY, CORDIALITY OF TALKS, DEEP U.S.-LEBANESE FRIENDSHIP;

B. RECOGNITION THAT, JUST AS THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT SARKIS SEEKS A VIABLE PEACE FOR LEBANON, SO DOES THE UNITED STATES IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER POWERS SEEK A VIABLE FORMULA FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST;

C. U.S. CONTINUES TO SUPPORT LEBANESE PARTICIPATION IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE;

D. REAFFIRMATION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY, NATIONAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY;

E. U.S. WILL SUPPORT REBUILDING OF THE LEBANESE
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STATE UNDER LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT SARKIS BY PROVIDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE LEBANESE ARMY. A UNIFIED ARMY IS ESSENTIAL TO REBUILD A UNIFIED STATE. (NOTE: IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO BE AS SPECIFIC AS CONDITIONS IN WASHINGTON PERMIT ON THE EXACT SCALE OF U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE LEBANESE ARMY.);

F. MENTION OF CONTINUED U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
(NOW EXPECTED TO REACH \$43.8 MILLION FOR FY 78 - \$20
MILLION GRANT, \$15 MILLION HOUSING LOAN AND \$8.8
MILLION PL-480) WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT LEBANON AND
THE LEBANESE PEOPLE ALSO NEED TO MOBILIZE THEIR OWN
HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

2. SHOULD THE SECRETARY MAKE HIMSELF AVAILABLE
TO ANSWER A FEW REPEAT FEW QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS,
WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY QUESTIONS WOULD FOCUS ON THE
FOLLOWING AREAS:

(1) VISIT BY PRESIDENT SARKIS AND/OR FOREIGN
MINISTER BOUTROS TO WASHINGTON;

(2) DETAILS OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON;

(3) U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD SOUTH LEBANON - TO
INCLUDE QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. GUARANTEES AGAINST
ISRAELIS ATTACK, POSSIBILITY OF DEPLOYMENT OF UN
FORCES, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVEMENT OF SYRIAN
ARAB SECURITY FORCES TO THE AREA;

(4) MORE SPECIFICS ON THE U.S. CONCEPT OF A
PALESTINIAN "HOMELAND."

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Message Attributes

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